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FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.

## BUSINESS-LIKE RECORD OF REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS

### Criticisms Of Democratic Spielers Shown To Be Unfounded

Henry D. Ross, candidate for district attorney on the Democratic ticket, is beguiling his time on the stump in attacking the "wastefulness and ineffectiveness of the Republican administration," his remarks being particularly directed to the Board of Supervisors. Taking as his text several planks of the Democratic platform, he proceeds to pour "hot shot," as he thinks, into the Republicans. Of course, Mr. Ross is such a heavy taxpayer himself, or rather, to be more explicit, he is rated so heavily on the assessment roll, that this so-called extravagance distresses him to such an extent that it disturbs his dreams by night and his digestion by day.

The Republican party is not ashamed of its record—in fact, it is proud of it, and we herewith submit the facts and figures taken from the records. The taxpayer cannot be fooled by any of the sophistry of Mr. Ross, who is groaning under the taxes WHICH HE DON'T PAY. The people judge by results and they know that where they are now paying \$2.30 instead of \$4 only three years ago, that there can be little if any waste.

"We consider that the Republican administration of County affairs has been costly without being effective."

As a literary effort, this extract from the Democratic platform is very creditable, but that it is far from being a true statement is best shown by the comparisons which follow:

#### COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE.

##### Democratic Administration.

1905—Cost, \$5,373.95.	Receipts, \$6,722.45.	Surplus, \$1,348.50
1906—Cost, \$6,489.16.	Receipts, \$9,835.25.	Surplus, \$3,346.09

Surplus for two years, \$4,694.59

##### Republican Administration.

1907—Cost, \$7,154.91.	Receipts, \$8,797.45.	Surplus, \$1,642.54
1908—9 Mos. \$5,384.05.	Receipts, \$5,982.38.	Surplus, \$ 598.33

Surplus for seven quarters, \$2,240.87

Deputies during the Democratic administration received \$75 per month. The Recorder received \$2000 per year. Under the present administration, legislative action increased the salary of each deputy to \$100 per month, and also created a chief deputy for the office at a salary of \$125 per month. This act was approved March 14, 1907, and it took effect immediately after its passage. In the salaries of the deputies employed the difference between the present amount paid each and that paid under the former administration, from the time the law increasing these salaries went into effect, until October 1, 1908, amounts to \$2,250.67. The salary of the Recorder was also increased by legislative action from \$2000 to \$2400 per year. This increase went into effect in July, 1908, so that to October 1, 1908, the difference in the salary of the Recorder amounts to \$100.

Therefore, had all salaries remained as they formerly were the cost of running the office under the present administration for seven-eighths of a full term would have been \$2,350.67 less than shown above. The surplus to the County would have been increased by this amount and would have been \$4,591.54.

The present Recorder is allowed no money for registration. His predecessor received \$132.40 from this source. The County also paid a deputy under the former administration \$530 for copying indices that had become worn out and were falling apart. The present Recorder is doing this very same thing during office hours, and it is not costing the county a cent more than the regular salaries of the deputies. These sums, amounting to \$662.40, are not included in the figures showing the cost of the office under the former Recorder. For this reason the surplus to the County from the Democratic administration of the office should have \$662.40 deducted from it, which shows the actual surplus to be \$4,032.19.

It is thus clearly shown that under the present administration \$59.39 more has been earned in twenty-one months, than was earned in twenty-four months under the Democratic administration.

In getting up the Great Register for 1906, the former Recorder had from five to seven deputies working in his office, and at that time considerable unfinished work when he retired from office. The present Recorder has had but four, and for a portion of the time, three. The work is kept up at all times, the Great Register for 1908 is completed and is arranged alphabetically by the two first letters of each name, which required very much more work than the previous Register. A comparison of the two books will show the great superiority in every way of the one gotten out this year.

Further than this, it cannot be questioned that the business depression of the past year has very materially affected the receipts of the Recorder's office.

#### SUPERVISORS' OFFICE.

##### Cash in Treasury.

January 1, 1905....\$136,894.32	January 1, 1907....\$126,451.80
January 1, 1906....\$ 80,742.22	January 1, 1908....\$250,076.94
	September 1, 1908....\$104,006.82

##### Amount of Taxes Collected.

1905....\$248,287.67	1907....\$228,649.26
1906....\$239,000.46	

These figures refer only to Territorial and County taxes. The special tax for the High School and for District No. 1, which affects Prescott, only, is not included.

##### Taxes Paid Territory.

1905....\$58,208.32	1907....\$68,440.10
1906....\$60,445.01	

By referring to the figures showing amount of taxes collected and amount paid the Territory, it will be seen that in the years 1905 and 1906 more money was received as taxes and less paid to the Territory than in the year 1907. The same condition holds good for the year 1908 but as the taxes for his year have not yet been collected exact figures cannot be given.

On January 1, 1905, there was a balance in the Treasury of \$136,894.32. During the year 1905 there was received from all sources \$316,929.29. There was paid out during that year \$373,081.39, leaving a balance of \$80,742.22 on hand January 1, 1906. In the amount expended during 1905 there is included the sum of \$76,037.85 bonds and road warrants redeemed. There is also included the sum of \$32,089.32 paid the Territory for interest and \$104,956.03 paid to the Territory for taxes. Taking these amounts from the amount expended during 1905 leaves a balance of \$159,998.19, which amount was practically what it cost to run the County for the year 1905.

In the year 1906 there was received from all sources \$309,931.66. There was spent \$264,222.08, leaving a balance on hand January 1, 1907 of \$126,451.80. In the amount expended during 1906 there is included \$37,478.17 bonds and road warrants redeemed, \$26,991.06 school bonds redeemed and interest paid, and \$60,445.01 paid Territory as taxes. These amounts deducted from the total amount expended show that during the year 1906 it cost \$139,507.84 to run the County.

In the figures given above as the cost of County government, are included all sums expended for schools, roads, salaries and all other expenses of the County. The years 1905 and 1906 were years during which the County had a Democratic Board of Supervisors. In these two years it has just been shown that \$299,506.03 was expended in the administration of County affairs. We will now take up the year 1907 and also 1908 to October 1st and compare the cost of a Republican administration with the figures as given for the previous two years. On January 1, 1907 there was in the Treasury the sum of \$126,451.80. There was received during the year 1907 from all sources the sum of \$328,398.90. There was expended during the year \$204,773.76. Included in this sum is \$36,851.35 paid for school bonds, County interest and special school tax District No. 9. There is also the sum of \$16,808.98 expended for new buildings at the hospital and as partial payment on the new jail building. \$7,239.93 more was spent on the schools, \$3,734.55 more on roads and \$1,741.25 more on bounties for wild animals during 1907 than during the preceding year. Taking these sums from the amount expended leaves \$138,307.70 as the cost of the first year of the Republican administration.

During 1908 the balance of Territorial taxes for 1907, amounting to \$59,338.95, were paid. The balance of the cost of the jail, amounting to \$24,593.77, was also paid. In addition, bridges were built, a new fence put around the cemetery and all other expenses of the County paid to date. The balance on January 1, 1908 was \$250,076.94. The sum of the amounts paid the Territory and for the jail and other improvements is \$89,252.19. The balance in the Treasury September 1, 1908 was \$104,006.82. This is more money than any other Board of Supervisors of this County had in the Treasury before taxes for the current year were collected.

Below are given a few figures showing in detail the amounts expended on roads, bridges, improvements, etc.

##### Cost of Bridges.

Granite Creek Bridge, Road District No. 1 .....	\$1,967.17
Groom Creek Bridge, Road District No. 1 .....	225.99
Miller Valley Bridge, Road District No. 2 .....	561.90
Agua Fria Bridge at Dewey, Road District No. 41 .....	1,494.91

The cost of this last named bridge includes grading and draining the approaches on both sides of the river.

"We pledge our candidate for Supervisor to call for bids on County work instead of giving contracts by the appointment of favored recipients."

Had the present Board of Supervisors built these bridges by contract, the cost would have been much greater. The Oregon Pine Bridge Timber in these bridges were furnished to the County by the S. F. P. & P. Ry. Co. for \$15 per thousand feet. In the case of the bridge over the Agua Fria, the timbers were delivered at Dewey for this price. The railroad company would not have furnished these timbers to a contractor nor could they have been purchased in carload lots anywhere and laid down here for less than from \$35 to \$45 per thousand feet.

Cost of new jail building, .....	\$34,274.39
Cost of fence around cemetery .....	\$ 1,070.00
Cost of new building at hospital .....	\$ 6,991.40

These improvements and the bridges shown above were all built by the Republican Supervisors and were paid for in full, without noticeably affecting the balance in the Treasury. These improvements have increased the valuation of the property owned by the County in the sum of \$46,585.76.

For the benefit of our Democratic friends, it may be stated that the hospital building, the jail building and the cemetery fence were built on contracts and in each case these contracts were let to the lowest bidder.

"We urge the reduction of the tax rate rather than the erection of a new Court House."

Is it possible that the writer of this choice extract from the Democratic platform has been so short a time in Yavapai County, as to think the tax rate for 1908 higher than that of 1905? In 1905 the tax rate was \$4 per \$100, in 1906 \$3, in 1907 \$2.50 and in 1908 \$2.30. Our readers are referred to the declaration of Supervisor Smith printed in another column.

"We commit our candidate for Supervisor to a policy of road extension for the good of the whole country and of building roads in a manner to render them permanent instead of following the present wasteful policy of building roads only to have them wash out again."

With about 1250 miles of county roads to be kept up and a tax for road purposes of 25 cents on \$100, it might be somewhat of a problem to extend our roads "for the good of the whole country." While the Democrats are to be commended for wishing to build permanent roads, it is most unfortunate that they did not adopt this policy while they were in power and while they were building most of our present roads. A good part of the money that has been spent on roads by the Supervisors this year was spent in taking roads out of the beds of creeks and gulches where the Democrats had built them and in re-building them along the mountain sides so that they would not "wash out again."

##### Spent on Roads.

1905.....\$16,429.80	1907.....\$18,121.87
1906.....\$14,387.32	1908, 9 mos. \$17,753.82

"We recommend that all roads be laid out by the County Surveyor."

This also is a recommendation of great merit, but like the Democratic wish for permanent roads, is being adopted about twenty years to late. During the years 1905 and 1906 a Democratic Board of Supervisors paid the County Surveyor \$158. Under the present Republican Board the County Surveyor received in 1907 \$1,384.55. Of this amount \$1,373.55 was the cost of surveying the Western boundary of this County. The taxable property, gained in 1907 through this survey had an assessed valuation of \$22,344.70. Taxes in the sum of \$608.77 were paid on this property last year. For 1908 the assessed valuation of this property is \$23,037.20 upon which the taxes will approximately be \$529.85. The taxes for the two years, 1907 and 1908, will very nearly pay for the cost of the survey, and the County will have a perpetual annual income in taxes from the property in the Territory gained. The gain in mileage on the Santa Fe, Pacific railroad is about 1.89 miles. The taxes on this, however, were not paid last year nor will they be paid this year to this County for the reason that no action in the matter was taken by the Territorial Board of Equalization, which Board returns all railroad assessments.

In 1908, while the exact figures are not at hand, any one who wishes may inspect the books of the Supervisors' office and will find that during this year to date the Surveyor has already been paid several times the amount that he received during the two years 1905 and 1906.

The so-called "Latimer strip" which is what the Territory gained through the survey of the Western boundary line of Yavapai County has been there since the earth was created and might have been secured many years ago had the Democrats been one-half so anxious to employ the County Surveyor as they now claim to be.

##### Expended for Schools.

1905....\$49,857.36	1907....\$54,538.91
1906....\$48,732.47	

These figures refer only to amounts taken out of the general school fund. The cost of maintaining the High School and also the Grammar School is not given as it refers to Prescott only and is not of interest to the outside sections of the County.

#### ASSESSOR'S OFFICE.

Assessment roll, 1906, \$6,339,712.75.

Assessment roll, 1908, \$10,318,151.76.

In 1905 the expense of the Assessor's office was \$3,461. For nine months of the present year it was \$3,600.80. Here at last it seems as where Republican administration has been costly. That it has been more effective in proportion is shown by the figures above. While it is true that the Democratic administration of this office was not costly to the County, yet it is just as true that it was very costly to the former occupant of the office. Chapter 71 of the Session Laws of the Twenty-fourth Legislative Assembly of Arizona should be read by all persons who may think the Republican administration of this office costly and is also recommended to any Democrat who may have known but has forgotten the reason that this office cost so little in the years 1903 and 1904.

Had the Democratic Supervisors supported the former Assessor as the present Board is supporting the incumbent of that office, the cost of the office to the County would have been greater, but the results would have been in proportion.

These facts and figures are taken from the County Records and hardly bear out the Democratic statement that "The Republican administration of County affairs has been costly without being effective." Every voter must form his own opinion and vote accordingly. The Republican administration stands upon its record and is satisfied to be judged by that record.